

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 02277 01 OF 02 241806Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07
CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
FEAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /115 W
-----241810Z 025391 /46

R 241844Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9064
INFO ERDA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 02277

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, PFOR, FR, US, PK, BR, GW
SUBJECT: CEA ADMINISTRATOR GIRAUD'S COMMENTS ON VARIOUS
ASPECTS OF US-FRENCH NUCLEAR COOPERATION

1. SUMMARY. AT THE JANUARY 18 SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE
CEA-ERDA LMFBR AGREEMENT AND THE RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON
FOLLOWING, CEA ADMINISTRATOR, ANDRE GIRAUD, COVERED A
NUMBER OF TOPICS IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH ME AND OTHER
EMBASSY OFFICERS:

A. HE WANTED, IF THE FRENCH-PAKISTANI REPROCESS-
SING PLANT CONTRACT WAS ABORTED, THE GERMAN-BRAZILIAN
ARRANGEMENT TO BE CHANGED FROM ITS PRESENT FORM TO AT
LEAST POSTPONE REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGIES,
AND HOPEFULLY TO PERMIT OTHER COUNTRIES (E.G. FRANCE)
ACCESS TO LIGHT WATER REACTOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN
BRAZIL.

B. HE WISHED THAT THE US WOULD GIVE FURTHER
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PAGE 02 PARIS 02277 01 OF 02 241806Z

CONSIDERATION AND A FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO HIS SUGGES-
TION THAT THERE BE SOME COORDINATION IN US AND FRENCH
DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE ENRICHMENT CAPACITIES,
POSSIBLY TO THE POINT OF CROSS INVESTMENT IN COMMERCIAL
FACILITIES BY FRANCE AND THE US.

C. HE EXPANDED HIS CONCEPT OF SUCH COOPERATION TO
COVER ALL ASPECTS OF THE FUEL CYCLE WITH PARTICULAR

EMPHASIS ON, IN ADDITION TO ENRICHMENT, FUEL FABRICATION, REPROCESSING AND (WITH EXTRA EFFORT BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER NATIONS) WASTE STORAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN DISCUSSING THE FRENCH-PAKISTANIA REPROCESSING ARRANGEMENT, GIRAUD CONTINUED TO PRESENT THE CURRENT FRENCH LINE THAT IT WAS UP TO PAKISTAN TO REQUEST A CHANGE OR CANCELLATION OF THE CONTRACT. GIRAUD COUPLED CANCELLATION OF THIS CONTRACT WITH THE NEED FOR SOME SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE GERMAN-BRAZILIAN ARRANGEMENT (I.E. DROP TRANSFER OF REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY). HIS VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THAT UMBRELLA ACCORD INCLUDED THE NOTE THAT FRANCE HAD NEVER REALLY CONCLUDED ITS DISCUSSIONS WITH BRAZIL; FOR POLITICAL REASONS BRAZIL HAD DECIDED TO PROCEED ON A COMPLETE, FULL SPECTRUM PROGRAM WITH GERMANY. GIRAUD FELT FRANCE HAD NO OPPORTUNITY TO BID ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL LIGHT WATER REACTORS FOR BRAZIL AND ANY REDOING OF THE FRG-BRAZIL ACCORD SHOULD, IN HIS VIEW, GIVE OTHERS OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER BIDS ON COMMERCIAL REACTORS.

3. ON ENRICHMENT, GIRAUD BEGAN BY DISCUSSING HIS VIEW OF CROSS INVESTMENT BY EITHER INDUSTRY OR GOVERNMENT IN ENRICHMENT FACILITIES IN THE OTHER COUNTRY. HE, OF COURSE, WOULD WELCOME US FUNDS BEING INVESTED IN EURODIF II AND HE WOULD WELCOME, BUT PROBABLY NOT INSIST ON, THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FRENCH FUNDS TO BE INVESTED IN THE NEXT SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION IN ENRICHMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 02277 01 OF 02 241806Z

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 PARIS 02277 02 OF 02 241803Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 02277

CAPACITY IN THE US. AS A FIRST STEP HE AGREED THAT THERE MUST BE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON ENRICHMENT POLICIES AND PLANS AND POSSIBLY THEREAFTER DEVELOP CROSS INVESTMENT.

4. RECENT CONFUSION REGARDING US POLICIES AND PRACTICES ON REPROCESSING US ORIGIN MATERIAL IN OVERSEAS REPROCESSING FACILITIES LED GIRAUD TO PROPOSE THAT COOPERATION SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO ENRICHMENT COORDINATION BUT IN FACT SHOULD COVER MOST ALL ASPECTS OF THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE. HE AGREED THAT SUCH COORDINATION COULD GREATLY ASSIST INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ON NONPROLIFERATION BY PROVIDING SUFFICIENT INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY FOR THE SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGIES OF THE FUEL CYCLE TO MEET WORLD NEEDS WITH PRICES REFLECTING NORMAL INDUSTRIAL COMPETITION.
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PAGE 02 PARIS 02277 02 OF 02 241803Z

5. COMMENT. GIRAUD HAD NOTHING NEW TO ADD ON THE TOPIC OF THE PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT; IN FACT, HE DID NOT APPEAR TO BE UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST GOF COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT. HIS VIEWS ON ENRICHMENT REFLECT A DEEP CONCERN FOR THE FUTURE OF EURODIF I AND II. US INVESTMENT IN EITHER WOULD BE THE BEST ASSURANCE THE GOF COULD OBTAIN THAT FUTURE US DEVELOPMENT OF ENRICHMENT CAPACITY WOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY TO FRENCH CAPACITY AND PLANS. THE FIRST STEP IN SUCH A LEVEL OF COOPERATION WOULD BE COORDINATION IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT. SUCH COORDINATION IN ALL ASPECTS OF FUEL CYCLE SERVICES IS PROBABLY ESSENTIAL FOR PRACTICAL CONTROL OF PROLIFERATION COEXISTANT WITH RATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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